and Union Territories on the basis of their requirment projected in annual work programme proposal under the Integrated Forest Protection Scheme.

Comparative forest figures

515. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative forest figure, State-wise in 1950, 1980 and 2000;

(b) whether it is a fact that the rate of depletion has been higher in case of economically more advanced States; and

(c) if so, whether Government would consider a more liberal approach such as accounting degraded forest land for compensatory afforestation in granting clearance for projects in backward States where rate of depletion has been lower?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Forest Survey of India has been assessing forest cover of the country biennially since 1987 using satellite data. The forest cover figures as per the first State of Forest Report 1987 and the latest 2001 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

However, even for projects in backward States compensatory afforestation is to be raised on degraded forest land, twice in extent to the area being diverted in case of Central sector projects. In other cases involving diversion of forest land, the compensatory afforestation is required to be done on equivalent non-forest-land. In case of non-availability of such non-forest land in the entire State, the compensatory afforestation may be done over degraded forest land, double in extent to the area being diverted subject to a certificate from the chief secretary of the State/UT about the non-availability of non-forest land for the purpose.

Statement

Forest cover figures of country as per State of Forest Report 1987 & 2001

State/UT	Forest Cover (in sq.kms) Based on SFR 1987	Forest Cover (in sq. kms) Based on SFR 2001
Andhra Pradesh	49,573	44,637
Arunachal Pradesh	64,132	68,045
Assam	25,160	27,714
Bihar	28,482	5,720
Chhattisgarh	-*	56,448
Delhi	15	111
Goa	1,240	2,095
Gujarat	11,991	15,152
Haryana	513	1,754
Himachal Pradesh	12,480	14,360
Jammu & Kashmir	20,095	21,237
Jharkhand	**	22,637
Karnataka	32,268	36,991
Kerala	10,292	15,560
Madhya Pradesh	130,099	77,265
Manipur	17,475	16,926
Maharashtra	45,616	47,482
Meghalaya	16,466	15,584
Mizoram	190,084	17,494
Nagaland	14,394	13,345
Orissa	53,253	48,638
Punjab	943	2,432
Rajasthan	12,758	16,367
Sikkim	2,756	3,193
Tamil Nadu	17,472	21,482
Tripura	5,953	7,065
Uttar Pradesh	31,226	13,746
Uttaranchal	***	23,938
West Bengal	8,432	10,693
A&N islands	7,601	6,930
Chandigarh	2	9
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	238	219
Daman & Diu	0	6
Lashadweep	0	27
Pondicherry	0	36
TOTAL:	640,819	675,538

*For the year 1987, it is included in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

**For the year 1987, it is included in the State of Bihar.

***For the year 1987, it is included in the State of Uttar Pradesh.